



September 16, 2022

Dear Council Members:

The Chevy Chase West Neighborhood Association Board strongly requests that the Council support the banning of gas powered leaf blowers in Montgomery County. We support the County Executive's proposed Bill (18-22, Noise Control – Leaf Removal Equipment – Amendments) to ban the use of gas-powered leaf blowers. We note this is a well-documented goal of the Montgomery County 2022 Climate Work Plan.

The scientific, ecologic, noise, and health-related facts clearly demonstrate the numerous benefits that our communities and workers will realize with the adoption of this ban. Fortunately, there are several alternatives to using gas-powered leaf blowers for yard maintenance. Battery powered leaf blowers have already been adopted by vendors and homeowners alike. As you know, the District of Columbia, along with many other communities have already adopted comprehensive laws to protect their citizens from this source of noise and pollution.

We are pleased the proposed change would authorize a grant program to partially offset the cost of replacing a combustion engine-powered leaf blower with an electric leaf blower or leaf vacuum.

Our neighborhood association board urges the Council to support this important change to eliminate gas powered leaf blowers in Montgomery County.

Sincerely,

The Chevy Chase West Neighborhood Association Board